

Serial No.: 10/828,528

Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0820

# THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Inventor(s)      | : | Eddie F. Coney                               |
|------------------|---|--|
| Serial No.       | : | 10/828,568                                   |
| Filing Date      |   | April 21, 2004                               |
| Title            | : | VAPOR-LIQUID CONTACT TRAYS FOR MASS TRANSFER |
|                  | - | COLUMN AND METHOD EMPLOYING SAME             |
| Group/Art Unit   | : | 1724   |
| Examiner         | : | Not Yet Assigned                             |
| Confirmation No. | : | 5287   |
| Atty. Docket No. | : | 506417-0820                                  |

#### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97(b), the references listed below and on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for Form 1449A-B/PTO) are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited foreign patent documents are enclosed. Submission of these references is not an admission that the references constitute prior art.

#### Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: December 3, 2004
Signature: December 3, 2004
Printed Name: December 3, 2004

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.

Serial No.: 10/828,528

Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0820

## **U.S. PATENTS**

Patent No. 2,711,307 3,045,989

Inventor(s) **Issue Date** Milmore 06/21/1955 Kittel 07/24/1962

#### **FOREIGN PATENTS**

Country Switzerland Germany

Patent No./Publication No.

253469 641814 **Publication Date** 

03/15/1948 02/04/1937

# **OTHER REFERENCES**

None.

Applicant respectfully requests that these references be made of record in the aboveidentified application and considered by the Examiner during prosecution of the application.

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention as claimed is patentable over the listed references.

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is due.

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

J. David Wharton, Reg. No. 25,717 STINSON MORRISON HECKER LLP

1201 Walnut Ste 2900

Kansas City MO 64106-2150 Telephone: (816) 842-8600 Facsimile: (816) 691-3495

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE and Properties of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known Substitute for Form 1449A 10/828,568 **Application Number:** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date: April 21, 2004 First Named Inventor: Eddie F. Coney STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Group Art Unit: 1724 (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name:** Not Yet Assigned Attorney Docket Number: 506417-0820 Sheet of | 1

|                       |      | -                    |                                      | U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS        |                              |   |
|-----------------------|------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| -<br>-<br>-<br>-<br>- | Cite | U.S. Patent Document |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Date of Publication of       | Pages, Columns, Lines<br>Where Relevant |
| Examiner Initials*    | No.1 | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) | of Cited Document             | Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear  |
|                       |      | 2,711,307            |                                      | Milmore                       | 06-21-1955                   |   |
|                       |      | 3,045,989            |                                      | Kittel                        | 07-24-1962                   |   |
|                       |      |                      |                                      |                               |                              |   |
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|                       |              |                     |                       | FOREIGI                              | N PATENT DOCUMENTS   |  |  |          |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|----------|
|                       |              |                     | Foreign Patent Docur  | ment                                 |  | Date of Publication of                                     | Pages, Columns, Lines,                             |          |
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Office <sup>3</sup> | 3 Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document   | Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY                               | Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T<br>6   |
| ·                     |              | СН                  | 253469                |                                      |  | 03-15-1948   |  |          |
|                       |              | DE                  | 641814                |                                      |  | 02-04-1937   |  |          |
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|                       |              |                     |                       |                                      |  |  |  |          |
|                       |              |                     |                       |                                      |  |  |  |          |
|                       |              | •                   | OTHER REFEREN         | CES - NON PATEN                      | IT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS  | AND INFORMATION  |  |          |
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 |                     | Include<br>item (book | k, magazine, journal, seria          | APITAL LETTERS), title of the article (what, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page ther, city and/or country where published | en appropriate), title of the (s), volume-issue number(s), |  | T2       |
|                       |              | Non                 | е.                    |                                      |  |  |  |          |
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|                       |              |                     |                       |                                      |  |  |  |          |

| Examiner Date Signature Considered |           |            |      |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------|------|
| Signature Considered Considered    | Examiner  | Date       |      |
|                                    | Signature | Considered | <br> |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



Serial No.: 10/828,528 Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0820

## LINGTHE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Eddie F. Coney Serial No. : 10/828,568 Filing Date : April 21, 2004

Title : VAPOR-LIQUID CONACT TRAYS FOR MASS

TRANSFER COLUMN AND METHOD

Group/Art Unit : 1724

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No. : 5287

Atty. Docket No. : 506417-0820

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97b FOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS AND U.S. UNPUBLISHED APPLICATIONS

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to MPEP 609(D), Applicant respectfully requests that the pending U.S. patent application listed below be considered in the examination of the above-identified application on other than a Form PTO-1449 format to avoid the application serial number of the pending application being published on any future patents. Submission of this reference is not an admission that the reference constitutes prior art.

#### Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: 3 200 Signature: Signature: Surlay Surlay

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.

Serial No.: 10/828,528 Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0820

| TRANSOU.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS |              |                                    |                     |  |  |  |
|--|--------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| Examiner's Initials                        | Applicant    | Patent Application Publication No. | Publication<br>Date |  |  |  |
|  | Colic et al. | US 2003/0010478                    | 1/16/ 2003          |  |  |  |
|  |              |                                    |                     |  |  |  |
| Examiner                                   |              | Date                               |                     |  |  |  |
| Signature                                  |              | Considered                         |                     |  |  |  |

| U.S. APPLICATIONS      |           |                    |             |  |  |
|------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|--|--|
| Examiner's<br>Initials | Applicant | Application No.    | Filing Date |  |  |
| Examiner<br>Signature  |           | Date<br>Considered |             |  |  |

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention as claimed is patentable over

the listed references.

Respectfully submitted

J. David Wharton Reg. No. 34,017

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Serial No.: 10/828,568 Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0820

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Inventor(s)      | : | Eddie F. Coney   |
|------------------|---|--|
| Serial No.       | : | 10/828,568   |
| Filing Date      | : | April 21, 2004   |
| Title            | : | VAPOR-LIQUID CONTACT TRAYS FOR MASS TRANSFER<br>COLUMN AND METHOD EMPLOYING SAME |
| Group/Art Unit   | : | 1724   |
| Examiner         |   | Not Yet Assigned   |
| Confirmation No. | : | 5287   |
| Atty. Docket No. | : | 506417-0820  |

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing with respect to the above-identified patent application are:

- an Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b), Form PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for Form 1449A-B/PTO) and cited foreign patent references; and
- 2) an Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b) for U.S. Patent Application Publications and U.S. Unpublished Applications.

These information disclosure statements are being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is due.

#### Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8

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| Date: Dec     | ember 3.2004 |  |
|---------------|--------------|--|
| Signature:    | welved and   |  |
| Printed Name: | Lora Gurley  |  |
|               |              |  |

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.

Serial No.: 09/611,625

Attorney Docket No.: 803768-0003

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Ву: ⊆

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